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The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 5 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, JULY, 1914 No. 13

The California Garden extends its thanks to L. A. Blochman for his services to the Floral Association during the past year. He not only has served as President and made it a point to live up to the office, but some of the best articles in the magazine have been from his pen. We greatly hope that his refusal to take a second term means he desires to write more and longer paragraphs for us. All the other officers should have their meed of praise, but as they are mostly to serve again, it is feared they might think they have done enough if too much were said.

We happened to get one of those conglomerate advertising pamphlets which promise you for a dollar an inch in one hundred publications with a circulation of several thousand. Glancing over this we find it largely made up of papers published in the smaller towns, lots of them daily papers, and yet the vast majority do not even claim as big a circulation as California Garden actually has. Advertisers kindly take notice.

We recommend to our subscribers the idea that a small or large continuous advertisement in the California Garden might help them and certainly would do us lots of good. We believe that it is not the proper thing to boost for advertising in the editorial columns, but we justify ourselves by thinking that when an editor is not only unpaid but is obliged to pay for space in the paper and his copy just like others, he should not be strictly bound by etiquette.

Last year the California Garden got into the County Schools of San Diego and it has hopes of those in the City for this. The President of the Board of Education has been prevailed upon to look at and accept a copy with the usual rider that no obligation written or implied was involved in the act. We are holding our breath to see what will happen, but our lung capacity is limited, so that we pray for an early release.

Have you seen that ad of our Exposition in the Saturday Evening Post? It made us start for Balboa Park right away, when we remembered it took two-bits to see the show. Won't those visitors in 1915 enjoy the result of all this tree-planting in our streets? It will make those who have been to Spain think of the Remadas in the cities of that land. They will say thus was it in Madrid, in Barcelona, in old Cordoba, and they will return to their barren homes filled with envy.

We read a story that came round by way of Sacramento of how an enterprising (?) individual had collected many dollars in Los Angeles by selling clover seed guaranteed to produce four-leaved clovers, he showed plants growing many such and clinched the deal by offering to buy all the product at any old price from fifty cents up. The story came out when the promoter of growing lucky charms skipped, leaving bills for plain clover seed and green court-plaster; this latter he used to stick the extra lobe on his exhibition plants. This story would be pronounced fiction on sight if it were not that the country had been worked again and again by promoters of marvellous growths with claims that were as fictional as those of the four-leaved clover expert. Nature works too slowly for some of our country's hustlers.

What are you going to do to help out YOUR California Garden magazine for its sixth volume ?

Though this number lacks one of the admirable series of articles contributed by Miss Matthews, the Garden is glad to assure its readers that future numbers will have her serviceable and timely advice. In consequence of the change in the Board of Directors of the Floral Association due to the annual election, Miss Matthews was not sure her services were longer desired; and on the side of the Garden was no other thought but a supremely thankful acceptance of all it could get as long as it could get it.

July Gardening

George P. Hall

One July is not just like another, although some people think it is the only month in which to raise the fire-cracker plant, a very pretty shrub by the way—but as the season has gone you can do lots of things this July that perhaps would not be best to do on some other July. Astronomers tell us, and of course they have been to see, the sun has a very large carbuncle on his neck covering a million more or less square miles and every time he takes the rag off to redress it you may expect a hot spell and when he gets it all fixed a coolness will come over the earth, as when he is in a normal condition. All through May and June he had the dumps and has been exciting Mt. Lassen so it is sick at the stomach throwing up all sorts of things, so if the month is "freaky" blame it to the boil, but keep on planting beans, just the same as if nothing was the matter.

There will be cool spells when it will be all right to set out dry weather cabbage plants and as the season will very likely be much warmer at the autumnal end it will be all right to plant more sweet corn, Golden Bantam especially, and you can get a good crop by sowing broad-cast for fodder to cut and bundle up for late feed. It will be all right to put in more cucumbers. Anything that will mature in from sixty to ninety days can go in. Egg Plant will like to be planted when the sun gets to jumping the thermometer up to the top notch. Kale and kohlrabi are not as fastidious about having the parasol held over them as are several of the cabbage family, and keep company with onions, modestly accepting such weather as is sent, knowing it is no use to kick up an unusual amount of odor about it. Peppers keep company with egg plant in wanting it heated up in the daytime so they can store up a season's supply. Always remember the potato is not at all discouraged if planted in July, provided you can supply the moisture to keep its feet damp and cool. Early kinds only take 2½ months to get new potatoes. Radishes and rutabagas do not mind past neglect on your part if you give them some good loamy soil to do their best in now, as will beets, cauliflower and Atlantic Prize Tomatoes for winter. It is best to cover the seeds with your portable frames made of cloth to assist the seeds when they come through. Plenty of time for squash, pumpkins, melons, and casabas especially.

Be sure and have the soil so you can prevent baking, because when the tender plants strike hot baked soil on one of the days when the sun is shifting his spots, it will be all over with them. If you can it is best to get the entire surface of the ground where you are going to put in your rows of seeds thoroughly wet down deep. Let the surface get so it will crumble by a day or two drying, then make drills and sow seed and the moisture beneath will force them up in a short time. If you cannot wet the whole ground, make the drills and let a slow stream of water run in them for 12 hours or more, shut off and go along the drill and crumble it, sow seed, cover with moist then dry soil and do not sow too deep. Seed like beans and corn can go in a couple of inches, but small seed in shallow. If they do not come up run a slow stream down beside the seed drill and then cultivate to prevent baking. Sow perennials for next season's blooming, some of them will get at it this year, and pansies for winter blooming. Cut back roses and do not give them much water, if you want heavy winter bloom. Roses cannot bloom all the time, they must have rest. Use tobacco dust on the aphis where you cannot knock them off with the strong stream from the hose. Sow eucalyptus, accacias and ornamental stock seed. It is about the last chance to plant citrus trees, but good balled trees of either orange or lemon, guava or loquat like it soil-warm when they are given a home place. Take useless suckers out of your deciduous trees, and keep top soil well cultivated.

We hear rumors of a garden to be built on the plans by Mr. Wallingford, published a few months ago in the California Garden, and better still it is to carry out a color scheme as well.

Reception to the Flowers

We had quite a social event here in San Diego last week, which was not chronicled in the daily press, so you see the garden has a "scoop" on this particular bit of news.

Mrs. Stephen Brown, of 1908 A Street (by the way, Mrs. Brown is a charter member of the Floral Association, if there are such things as charter members), gave an elaborate reception to a number of most distinguished guests. They were nearly all related to the "Green" family. Those who partook of her hospitality, and drank the delicious aqua pura, which is only found in San Diego, were: That most beloved of noble ladies, the lovely Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, who wasn't a bit haughty, but acted just like one of the ordinary "Greens," and met every one with a smile and seemed so pleased to get acquainted. Then came President Carnot, every inch a king, even if his title were only President, which is truly as noble a title as that of King.

There was a stir, and every one looked to see the Princess of Ratzville, but she was a sad disappointment, she was looking fagged and faded, having perhaps been out to a tango the night before. Then we were wondering at Gen. McArthur's funny antics. He was only trying to keep from stepping on the Princess' train. But my! didn't he get red in the face! The Queen of the May (or June, rather) was the dainty Miss Dorothy Perkins. You know she has just made her debut. She seemed so independent, bestowing her smiles without partiality on every one. But still, you could see her lashes fall and the pink mantle on her cheek when she saw Mr. Carrot Fern crossing hastily to meet her. Ah! Ha! There's a match, and here comes another, Miss Pincushion. You know she is an old maid, and I swan, if she didn't have the nerve to try to make an impression on Mr. Cecil Bruner Climber. You know he is very distinguished now, since he returned from Tia Juana, where he discovered that river bottom side up. Well, when he wouldn't notice her, she had to return to poor old Mr. Paul Neyron. He is showing his age terribly, I think a good deal of it is the heat, but I guess Miss Pincushion is like the old maid I once knew, who went out into the woods and prayed for a man. Just then the owl said, "Who! who!" She said, "Lord, any old man'll do." Well, what do you think? I was so mortified, but if that old hen and chickens didn't insist on being noticed! The Kaiserin, in her royal way, said, "Oh, let them remain by all means." You couldn't help but see that old Mrs. Flagg was looking out for number two, you know she is a grass widow, and she looks grassy enough, goodness knows. She had that timid Mr. Ulrich Bruner by the arm (I understand he is an uncle of Cecil's), sitting under the pergola, and his face was as red—you could see he was just dying to have Miss La Marque run over and take old Mrs. Flagg's place. My, oh my, there were so many guests, I never could tell about them all. Oh yes, last but not least was the Lath House Family, and surely you know they are just as numerous as those common mortals, the Smiths, Jones, and Browns. Well, it was getting late; all too soon, they must go. They crowded round Mrs. Brown, trying to tell what a nice time they had. All talking at once, and the gentlemen louder than anybody. You need not tell me that the women do all the talking after this. When the last one had waved good-bye, Mrs. Brown ran her fingers through her hair and looking round, with a sigh, said: "Well, we certainly had a good time," and the mocking bird just yelled, "We did, we did."

The linnets flew, and the humming birds too!
The cat sat alone upon the wall;
But every one without exception,
Said they'd had a fine time at Mrs. Brown's reception.

[We cannot allow the modesty of Mrs. Brown to deprive her of the credit of the authorship of this garden fantasy.—Ed.]

George F. Otto has purchased the flower store of Fortune Lanier, and has moved from his old location on Fourth Street, to the corner of Sixth and B streets.

The Dahlia

A. D. Robinson

As this is written the dahlia is in full bloom, some weeks ahead of its usual schedule, and judging by Rosecroft, the flowers are unusually fine. Best results with the least effort have come where a large permanent basin filled with a mulch of cow manure has been used. Irrigating once a week, or in case of extra heat and dryness, twice has proven ample. When close massing has been practiced, irrigating by trenches between rows has been necessary, and these trenches have been left open after the plants filled the space. This has not been so satisfactory, calling for more labor and water and another year large trenches, filled with mulch with the tubers planted in them, will be used, as the mass effect will be just the same.

In order to keep the blooms coming and maintain their size and color, frequent fertilization is in order. Probably a little nitrate, a small tablespoonful to each plant, would be useful, or guano or sheep manure in larger quantities. Sprinkle over the basin before watering. Also cut off spent blooms. In doing this be careful to prune back to flowering shoots, so that no idle wood be carried and the bush be kept down. Don't forget an occasional overhead spray. This must be quite light or it will mar the delicate colors, particularly the fluffy peony varieties.

Experiments have been made in disbudding with that giant orange red souvenir de Gustave Doazen and a Rosecroft seedling, white, recently named "Star in the East". With both it undoubtedly increased the size of the bloom, but the most notable effect was on the stem which it doubled in length. The largest blooms so far were 8 inches in diameter for Star in the East, and 7½ for the other. Disbudding has also kept the plant in better shape. It should be said that the buds on each side of the crown one were removed, also the two shoots at the axils of the next pair of leaves. The result of the effects to mass dahlias according to size and color has been very pleasing, and it is strongly urged on every grower of dahlias to make a study of their varieties with this in view. The catalogue descriptions are not to be understood by the average amateur. Among a collection that was to be confined to yellows and oranges, Rosecroft has found a brilliant red Bessie Palliser, a less brilliant but decided red Wolfgang von Goethe, which is put out as an apricot. Nerthus a mixture that is certainly not the orange yellow promised and H. Wearing that if pure salmon as stated, the salmon must have been off colored. However some wonderful things accompanied these, and specimen blooms will be exhibited at an early meeting of the Floral Association.

In the meantime, they are growing where any one really interested is welcome to inspect them.

It must be realized that the bloom is only a part of the plant, and habit of growth and style of foliage is very important. Some varieties with only mediocre flowers yet make such symmetrical specimens that they are very desirable. In mind is a seedling whose dark buff flowers are on so limber a stem, that it makes a cut bloom useless. Yet the bush grows in so pleasing a shape and is so floriferous that in the garden it is a jewel and beloved of all beholders.

This brings up the question of dahlias for cut flowers and a query on this head has reached California Garden. The keeping qualities of a dahlia seem to be in proportion to the stiffness of the stem, as a general thing. Dahlias properly treated are very satisfactory as cut flowers, but it must be remembered that they are in season at a time when roses won't keep like they do in the spring. It is imperative to cut dahlia blooms early in the morning, before the heat has driven the sap back. It is perfectly useless to cut them after any wilting shows. The evening is not so good for the obvious reason that they are not fully recovered from the stress of the day. After picking, the stems should be put in boiling, not hot water, for five minutes. It is best to make a hole in a newspaper and pass the stems through; this protects the blooms from the steam.

A little salt in the water in the vase helps, just a pinch is meant by a little. Some folks claim that the secret of getting dahlias to last is to take off all foliage, but practice has not justified this claim. The lasting qualities of different varieties vary greatly, and it is well worth while to study and make notes along this line.

For the month the word is, "irrigate, fertilize, and keep off spent blooms."

The Lath House

Since at the annual meeting of the Floral Association Mr. Campbell invited any or all to visit his garden at Ocean Beach, it seems permissable to talk about his lath house, which first and foremost is a demonstration of the wide range of usefulness of this kind of structure. All kinds of blooming things are there blooming. A complete list is not available nor necessary, but these among other are present, abutilon, larkspur, clarkia, schizanthus, salpiglossus, dahlias, etc., and of course begonias and coleus. A visit would almost induce one to dare to try anything. All who can should exercise this opportunity, but don't go there with the idea of saying, "Oh, of course, Mr. Campbell, you have an ideal situation and soil, where I live," etc., etc. A catalogue of nature's unkindnesses. Mr. Campbell has made his garden with garden sense and manure, stimulated with a real love of growing things, in a sand heap, with a wind that never faileth and a sun that gets up early and goes to bed late.

Why not try some pansies in pots in the lath house. A pot of pansies would be ideal for house decoration. The experiment should be made with a very rich compost, half well-rotted manure and rather larger pots than other plants of the same size would require. Start in a four-inch. This is only a suggestion, but pansies have been satisfactory for window boxes in other climes.

The writer visited another lath house on Point Loma and saw a most wonderful display of the ordinary small flowering bedding begonias, or at least they were said to be such, though here they were two to three feet high, and a mass of bloom. The situation was peculiar. The west wall of the house was the side of the hill which rose many feet above. There was also the same condition, though not so pronounced, on the south, and these begonias grew on the top one of a series of terraces which brought them right up next the roof. Perhaps Mrs. Arthur, who lives on the main boulevard might show you if you are real polite and call at a convenient season. If only one could get a lath house with a hillside and could cover that with maidenhair, Rex begonias, and such, what a show it would make and it is perfectly feasible. One more argument against the dead level so popular with us. Yet another lath house was called on, and there leaf mold from Descanso was bravely pushing some tuberous begonias in hanging baskets. Make use of your back country.

Begonia Lloydii is worthy of your notice. It is tuberous, but claimed to be ever growing and blooming. Its habit is somewhat drooping which would recommend it for hanging baskets. The foliage is quite small, almost insignificant, and the blooms, of a wonderful flame color, are quite unique. On a base of four narrow, long petals rests a bunch of ribbons. This is not supposed to be a technical description, it is merely an amateur observation, if any one objects to it let him get a begonia Lloydii and send the Garden his version.

How are your tuberous begonias? Truly the frilled and fringed varieties are lovely, but the mammoth singles have no reason to hide their blooms. Keep them moist, but don't drown, and watch for the need of staking, they grow wonderfully in this weather.

The Tausendschon (thousand beauties) climbing rose has proven itself worthy of very extensive planting. It is second only to climbing Cecile Brunner in beauty of individual flower at close range, but C. C. Brunner is No. 2 to it when decorative effect and foliage are the first demand.

The Rudiments of Gardening

Official Bulletin No.11, Issued under Direction of Prof. H. J. Baldwin, County Superintendent of Schools
Teachers will use contents of these Bulletins for their regular classwork in Agriculture

Plant Classification

By GEORGE P. HALL
President Little Landers Colony, San Ysidro, Cal.

We have learned something about soil, fertilizers, plants and their classification, and will now take up some of the means of preventing and combating diseases and insects that are the enemies of plants that either retard their growth or destroy them if we do not know how to combat them.

Q. What are weeds?

A. Weeds are plants that have no economic value at present and only cumber the soil and take away moisture and plant food that we need for the cultivated plants, hence they are classed as enemies.

Q. Can you name some of the worst weeds growing in your vicinity or near your homes?

A. Mayweed, thistle, burdock, San Jose and sow thistles and Russian thistles, the last being the worst because of its habit of rolling before the wind and scattering seed over a large portion of the country. Mallows, plantain, alfilarea sorrel and mustard and burr clover, though the last can be made good use of as a nitrogen gatherer.

Q. How are weeds most easily killed?

A. By destroying them before they mature seed. Most of them are annuals and if cut off or plowed under before they distribute any seed they are easily disposed of, except such as extend themselves by running roots under the ground like Bermuda grass.

Q. Have plants any other enemies?

A. Nearly all butterflies and moth are enemies, not in their acts of distributing pollen or extracting honey from flowers, but in laying eggs that produce caterpillars and worms that feed ravenously on young plants. Flies produce maggots maggots which are also very destructive to plant life, if permitted to be undisturbed.

Q. How are insects divided?

A. Into beneficial, or predaceous, and destructive. The destructive insects are divided into two classes—those that bite and those that fasten their beaks into the inner bark of the tree or plant and live by drawing out the sap, and are called "sucking insects." The others bite and eat up the plant or honeycomb the leaves so the plant is practically devoured.

Q. Which are rightly termed "bugs"?

A. The injurious insects that fasten themselves into the sap of the plant and do not move from their position till killed or the plant dies by reason of all its life sap being devoured. The aphides are a numerous family that attack many of our garden vegetables, shrubs and flowers.

Q. What is meant by predaceous insects?

A. Insects that live by destroying and devouring the bugs, hence are man's best friend. Were it not for these predaceous insects there would not be a green thing on the earth, but these guardians of plant life destroy our enemies by the millions.

Q. Can you name some of the beneficial insects as the predaceous ones are also called?

A. "Ladybirds" of nearly every color and which feed on special injurious insects, comus and cyprus flies, which extract the life-juices from the aphis, scale, and in addition there are parasitic insects that fasten on the bodies of injurious insects and never leave till they have parasited them, which means laying eggs in their body that will hatch inside and eat the victim all up. These parasites fasten on the bodies of army grasshoppers and in fact infect millions, causing their death. Some birds, all toads and frogs are helpers to destroy aphides and many other injurious worms and bugs.

Q. How could the annual crop of caterpillars, corn and tomato worms be diminished?

A. If in our nature studies children were taught to catch the moth and butterflies that lay the eggs that produce the ravenous worms, also the beetles that produce so many earth worms that feed on the roots of plants and thus destroy them.

Rain to Order

The following extract has been made from the Saturday Evening Post, and is quoted to show that quite respectable and respected people think, with the editor of California Garden, that the making of a rainstorm is within the possibilities the future holds for the human race.

Every big advance towards a more complete subjugation of nature's forces to man's uses has been preceded by a great apparent necessity. No student of modern water works, be they to serve a city or irrigate a farming territory, but must have been struck by the fact that they are all based on the chance of rain coming in due season. Also that modern irrigation, much as it is belauded, is inefficient and extravagant. An observation based on our dry years makes it almost certain that ten years of continuous irrigation without any winter rain, even if ample moisture were supplied would render our land useless for small crops, because of the concentration of salts on the surface. Raining is the best method. The variety of sprinkling systems to simulate it proves that, therefore let us make it rain. It can and it will be done, let us hope soon, if that old Mission Valley plant keeps on pumping the water that a few years ago killed every maidenhair fern in the community.

Rain by Wireless

Weather control—rain ordered for midnight, day after tomorrow—may be a wireless victory in the next generation. Now it is weird and visionary; but Sir Oliver Lodge, who is in the top rank of living scientists, thinks it not improbable, and is now calling on his fellows to begin wireless studies with this purpose in mind. The more there is discovered about the way wireless telegraphy works, the more it is evident that weather and wireless waves are tangled with each other.

Almost every one knows that wireless telegraphy works better by night than by day and has peculiar jumps of efficiency at sunset. A wireless operator on shipboard in the far north found that during a display of the aurora borealis the northern lights were widely disturbed when he sent out wireless signals from his ship.

The growing theory concerning the way wireless waves follow the curve of the earth is, in simple language, that the upper layers of the air form a sort of magnetic cushion against which the wireless waves can bound along. Sir Oliver wishes to have experiments made by discharging very powerful wireless waves from kites under all kinds of weather conditions, in order to ascertain whether the waves will, under any conditions, make clouds condense into rain, or prevent them from condensing.

It is not to be expected, of course, that rain could be obtained from a dry sky, but normal conditions of the air would leave much opportunity for weather control if the theory should prove workable.

The total eclipse of the sun on a path from Greenland to Persia next August is to be made the occasion for elaborate wireless experiments. Wireless signals will be sent out from within the path of shadow and across the shadow, and the effect of the shadow on these signals should give more clews to the whole problem.

Street Parkings

All parking strips of the sidewalks not in order should have the soil dug out for 2 inches, then the bed made very loose with a pick. Next cover with a heavy dressing of fertilizer and then wet down thoroughly. After a few days, work manure into the soil. Scatter on some barley seed and cultivate it in. When this is six or eight inches high, spade or plow everything under, and by September the ground will be ready for some inexpensive planting of winter blooming annuals, like Shirley poppy, or California poppy, to be followed by a spring and summer growth or be made into a good lawn.

A little wicker dove cote beneath the garden shade tree is most artistic.

Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

I am mourning this month, not for my moulted tail feathers, but for the tragic end of my peacock, and I have never found a mourning so little enjoyable. Just as I have settled down to a comfortable deep despair at the loss of so much glorious color and such supreme self-satisfaction, I remember the ear-splitting cries with which he was wont to rend the silence of the night and disturb the best slumbers of the morning, and I find a feeling of relief fighting for expression. Bunches of his resplendent tail were found in the pathway one morning and later his body was discovered a couple of hundred yards away. A neighbor who neighbors near the scene of the tragedy heard more than ordinarily distracting cries just at daylight, and it is supposed a coyote jumped on him as he passed along a cypress fence to call up this neighbor to come out and look at his tail. That a coyote should destroy a peacock is so disproportionate that it makes one weep. A coyote could not have been jealous of his beauty but—Ah, I have it, it was jealous of his voice.

This month that which comes to my mind is not particularly pleasant; it seems to deal with death and decay. Having buried the peacock after plucking his feathers, I find my thoughts turning to manure, really a natural sequence. My preachments about the need of fertilizer, even in this virgin soil, seems to be bearing fruit, and every day big loads from the slaughter house corrals either pass by or come in. Now it would seem I ought to be contented but instead I am frightened for I realize the extreme potency of that fresh product, and the extra danger of applying it at this season. I have seen a little of it stacked near a hearty young cypress turn it black over night. It is only safe to use such fertilizer when and where the ground is kept really wet, and prudence dictates its being stacked up, and kept moist till the fall when it will be in better condition for use and the season will be right. As it comes from the corrals it is in almost unbreakable chunks and these are danger points for months even if buried in moist earth.

My gardener has again taken to annuals in spite of many past oaths not to do so, and I am frankly glad. Of course annuals mean working in the garden every year instead of putting in one season with perennials and going fishing for the next half dozen. It seems right that a man or a woman should have to work for a garden, for in that work lies the essence of its use and enjoyment. Gardens are not to be enjoyed, loved, felt vicariously. Their supreme joy only comes to those who suffer the labor of creation. Just as motherhood is such a wonderful thing that no men and only a few women really do know it as it should be. I write this as I perch in the shade in the warmth of the afternoon and gaze on a riot of blue and gold. Just a combination of blue bachelor buttons, yellow calliopsis and marigold, the interest on an investment of forty cents and some labor and I love it all the more because it is quite unlike what the gardener planned. In one long narrow bed yellow marigolds were put down the center surounded by bachelor buttons and the effect expected was a streak of yellow supported by a blue border. But the bachelor buttons grew way over the marigolds, and no two plants of them grew the same height, and there eventuated a blue green wavy cloud with spots of yellow showing through where it was thin. Elsewhere the bachelor buttons in the center are flanked by calliopsis and the gardener is justified. Round the corner I know is a bed of cardinalis, lobelia, where the most marvelous scarlet flowers hang on bronze stalks three feet high. The gardener raised these from seed and has been fussing with them for two years, and what a reward of patience.

Elsewhere in the garden are schizanthus, that marvelously delicate floriferous little thing that will be in all our gardens in a year or two. We are learning how to grow it now. My gardener only made a stab at it this year. He did not grow it hardy enough, but that only makes him keen to try again. Close by it a border of half dwarf snapdragon. The ladies say it is a Bulgarian mixture of color—one it reminded of Burmah—but the seedfolk call

it scarlet. Even I know it is not scarlet, but anyway it is coming out in bloom and back of it is a row of the single sunflower Miss Mellish. Frankly I want to see this bed when it is right. Perhaps I shall not like it as much as I expect, but who cares, there are other years coming.

I have heard my gardener speculating on stocks for the winter; the whites, yellows, buffs, etc., masses of them in one color. In such quantities that of evenings when the dew begins to fall and the delicate essence of things has a chance to assert itself, the air is laden with their sweetness. That reminds me, the gardener sent to England for seed of the night-scented stock, the stuff that scents a whole room with one blossom, such as he smelled in his youth, and he grew great clumps of it this spring. It was a fast grower and a hardy, but its flower was small and of a displeasing lavender in color and it never smelled a smell neither by day nor by night and visitors to the garden should avoid reference to the night-scented stock. Oh, yes! it was the right seed but California is individual in its smell as in everything else. Well good-bye, I must fly round and look at the eucalyptus ficifolia, which is barbaric in its splendor just now.

In the Back Country

Kate O. Sessions

A Fourth of July outing for thirty-six hours by auto to the Hulburd Ranch, gave much joy to a small party of members of the Floral Association.

Before 6 a. m. thirty-five varieties of wild flowers were gathered along three-fourths of a mile of the roadway approaching the ranch. During the forenoon, on a drive to Cuyamaca lake, forty-one more varieties were found, and on the return trip along the road sixteen more were collected, making ninety-two varieties in all. This was done without hunting, and easily one hundred or more could have been collected.

The conspicuous varieties were a bright blue penstemon, a brick-red one—penstemon trifoliata—the scarlet climbing penstemon and the scarlet bugler; a ceanothus (wild lilac) with white bloom and greyish green foliage; some charming gilias, clear yellow, salmon yellow, one pale blue and feathery like gypsophilla. The Calochortus Weedii, bright yellow, also a yellow dicentra (the bleeding heart) two sorts of milk weed (asclepias) a rare and beautiful deep rose mimulus; a light and bright lavender colinsia; a bright blue salvia, a strong rival to our blue bachelor buttons.

The growth of manzanita, full of berries, the ceanothus in variety of foliages and shades; the adenostema fasciculatum (grease wood); the wild buckwheat (two sorts) and in full bloom, some of it six to eight feet high; the delicate spikes of the white sage, in full seed at base of mountains and in full bloom on the upper slopes. About Cuyamaca lake and on the six miles of roadway approaching it, the pines, fir, cedar, black oaks and live oaks, all so clean and fresh and vigorous; the running streams and depths of good soil and banks of leaf mold, all together give a big boost to the plant lover and gardener to get in and dig, plant and dream. Take the trip yourself and see if all this and more isn't true.

The scarlet blooming eucalyptus (Eu. ficifolia) at the residence of Mr. Dan Lyon, southwest corner Maple and Sixth, is an extra fine specimen. All of the good Eu. ficifolia trees should be reported to this publication. This variety of eucalypt does not always come true to color from seed, so that the extra fine ones should be planted in the hope that the best colors will be more generously perpetuated.

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The Rose

Let your roses go gently to sleep now. Cultivate the ground but don't give enough water to stimulate new growth. This does not apply to the small plants recently distributed by thousands, nor any of recent planting, as they must be given water in season and every care as they are not firmly established. Also these latter would much benefit from mulching round them, as roses do not like hot ground for their roots. Stocks budded in May should also be kept growing, and especially with standards. The buds intended to make standards should be nipped back to two buds as they grow and these headed back the same, so as to form a bushy head. This also encourages a firm junction of the bud and the stock. Look out for suckers. It is imperative that any irrigation should be thorough so as to encourage deep rooting. The plants will not survive with roots in the hot top zone.

This careful attention is necessary too for cuttings rooted last fall or this spring. Don't try and move these now, they have not made root action enough.

Have any of you asked for a bid on your roses for fall planting from your nurseryman?

Profit in Roses

Roses, though generally admired as the most beautiful flower, are not universally recognized as the profitable article of commerce that they really are.

Trade roses are grown in various parts of Europe, but chiefly at Grasse, in France, and Kasanlik, in Bulgaria, where great stretches of rose gardens provide the chief supply of roses for the markets of the world. The highly cultivated roses are useless for commercial purposes, and both at Grasse and Kasanlik it is the cabbage rose that is chiefly grown—"the rose of a hundred petals", as they call it in southern France.

The Grasse roses are used chiefly for pomades, soaps, rose water, and such commodities; and the demand made by the manufacturers on the rose growers of Grasse can be gauged from the fact that more than two million five hundred thousand pounds of roses are annually gathered in the district.

Essence—or, as it is called, attar of roses—is rarely made in France, on account of the expense of production, but nearly all the Bulgarian roses are used for this purpose.—Ex.

Planting Notes

The eight acre field of poinsettias belonging to F. S. Sessions are looking extra fine for this time of the year at Soledad Terrace, the heights above Pacific Beach.

The latest fad for the garden is an artistic rough basket and a little broom of unique design. When weeds are pulled and fallen leaves gathered, use the basket. All the pictures of the beautiful Madeira gardens show the garden basket. Mr. Campbell can make an original design for you if you cannot do it or find a basket to suit.

Solanum rautonetti will make a very beautiful hedge or covering for a high fence. Severe trimming improves it and its abundance of bloom, which is a deep and rich violet. It will make a good background for planting wherever a strong color scheme is wanted.

Some day we will have "moving pictures" of Mrs. A. in her garden at work, and the garden basket will be in it. Get busy on that garden basket.

The Ipomea Searii, on the "M" street car line, between Nineteenth and Twentieth, north side of road, is a good lesson. It is that common blue perennial morning glory, covering an old shed. Just ride around for a look.

The eucalyptus ficifolia are particularly wonderful this year and it is surprising it is so comparatively scarce. It needs to be planted in clumps, as its habits of growth is altogether too eccentric and uncertain for use in formal planting.

Giving the Gardeners Their Due

G. T. KEENE

THIS is the time when the new year begins for the San Diego Floral Association, and nearly all memberships and subscriptions are due. Many have already renewed their allegiance to the good work the Association is doing by remitting in response to the letter sent out in June. No doubt many more thought at the time they would write their check for the small amount, or call and pay in person, but with the passing thought it has gone from their minds. Someway, we can't forget it, and if possible we will try to remind those who have.

The membership alone is $1.00 per year, and the subscription to California Garden is also $1.00, but the two are given for $1.50. It is a small matter for an individual, but if several hundred forget it, the work we are trying to accomplish is retarded just that much more. This is not a money making proposition, as has often been stated. If we come out even at the end of the year we all join hands and dance with glee. At present writing we are neither particularly exuberant, nor greatly downcast, indicating that conditions might be better or worse.

The coming year looms up with great possibilities for good, hard, telling work. The field is large, but it needs weeding, cultivating, fertilizing and planting. The association is not a close corporation; we are not members of the Floral Association's Union; any willing workers will be welcomed within the garden gates. If you already have a smudge of terra firma on fingers and forehead, or a blister on the palm, your welcome will be all the more cordial, and you will be taken into the counsels of those who have grown wise while growing plants and flowers.

During this coming year we want to get nearer to the home-folks. We don't want to just meet together with a dozen or two of the time tried and faithful. We want that same dozen or two to meet with hundreds of others working together for the good and welfare of each individual, and at the same time for the whole city and county, and Southern California at large.

To that end the Association is planning to hold meetings in the various sections of the city, or any place where they will be welcome. In fact the welcome even need not be too apparent, if the opportunity is.

To do these things now being planned out, we will need more active members, who will lend their enthusiasm and energy and bring forth new and better ideas. There may be others who, though not able to work themselves, will help financially, and thus we may divide the load, and all be doing something to make this a beautiful as well as a great city.

In the meantime, if each present member would see that his or her membership and subscription is paid to June 1, 1915, and endeavor to get at least one new member or subscriber, it will be a big help in the right direction.

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Alfred D. Robinson, President
Miss K. O. Sessions, Vice-President
G. T. Keene, Secretary
L. A. Blochman, Treasurer
Miss A.M. Rainford, Miss Leila Clough, Mrs. Thos. Kneale

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JULY MEETING

The Floral Association will meet Tuesday evening, July 21, at 8 o'clock, at the residence of Mrs. H. P. Davison, 442 Date street, the first house west of Fifth street on Date. Please note the change of the day of the week from Thursday to Tuesday, which will be adhered to in the future.

AUGUST MEETING

The Floral Association will meet Tues day evening, August 18, with Miss Laura Schiller, 115 Redwood St., corner of First.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Tuesday evening, September 15, the Association will be entertained at the home of J. W. West, 2015 Ft. Stockton Drive, Mission Hills.

ANNUAL MEETING, JUNE 22, 1914

Marking the close of another year's work, the San Diego Floral Association met Monday evening, June 22, in the San Diego Club House, L. A. Blochman, presiding.

The decorating committee had worked out a color scheme in which yellow and white predominated, but with a fine display of wildflowers in various colors. Hulburd Ranch, Descanso, sent in an auto load Monday morning, picked especially for the meeting, and Rosecroft, as usual, was represented by some wonderful dahlias. One particularly beautiful variety has been named "The Star of the East."

The program committee likewise did themselves credit in arranging an especially fine program, the numbers of which are given below.

President Blochman, in opening the meeting, gave a resume of the year's work, telling of the things which had been accomplished, but regretting that a more enthusiastic spirit had not been shown.

Alfred D. Robinson, editor of California Garden, made an appeal for that magazine, inviting more generous support in contributions to its columns, in widening its field of influence by the addition of subscribers among the friends of the members.

G. T. Keene, secretary of the Association and manager of the Garden, told of some of the successes and needs of both branches of the work, winding up with a financial statement, which showed that the Association still has a comfortable bank balance, though a quiet year; but the Garden running "close to shore" as usual.

Dr. Louise Heilbron made an enthusiastic talk in favor of the Association taking an active part in the July Fourth celebration by entering a florally decorated auto in the parade. It was voted to take such part and President Blochman appointed Mrs. Wineburg, Mr. Russell and Mrs. Dickinson a committee to carry out the suggestion.

Fourteen names having been placed in nomination for Directors, a ballot was taken, Miss Schiller and Miss Jones acting as tellers, who declared the following elected for the ensuing year: L. A. Blochman, Leila Clough, Mrs. Thos. Kneale, Miss A. M. Rainford, Miss K. O. Sessions, A. D. Robinson and G. T. Keene.

The Chair expressed the thanks of the Association for the good work done by the various committees. While the ballots were being counted, refreshments of ice cream and cakes were served and dancing followed.

Program

March, "The Prize Winners"....Tocabin
S. D. Gibson Quintet

Soprano Solo, "Blossoms".....
Miss Sillifant

Mandolin Duet .....
Messrs. Hammond and Grumm

Male Quartet—
a. "Heidelberg Stein Song".....
b. "The Two Roses" .....
Messrs. Morgan, Viersen, Mapes, Keene

"Gondellied", from Italian Suite..
..... Gruenwald
Quintet
Reading—a. "A Maiden's Letter"
b. "The Lisper"
Mrs. Keene
Mandolin Solo, "Serenata"...Alexander
Mr. Hammond
Tenor Solo, "Memory of a Rose"..
Dr. Viersen
Belero, "La Morena".....Kurfluh
Quintet

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

The new Board of Directors of the San Diego Floral Association met for organization Monday, June 29, at the Blochman Bank. Mr. Blochman declined re-election as president and Alfred D. Robinson was elected to again take up the work after a year's vacation. Miss K. O. Sessions was elected vice-president, G. T. Keene secretary and L. A. Blochman treasurer.

Mr. Robinson was not present at the meeting, and it was with some trepidation that the secretary notified him of the action of the board. After some rather agitated ejaculations from the Point Loma end of the line he took the matter under advisement, finally accepting under the condition that the board of directors really help to direct the work of the association during the coming year.

At this first meeting it was decided to have a directors' meeting once each month before the regular meeting, and at the call of the new president, they met at luncheon Tuesday, July 7th, at the Tea Cup Inn.

The president gave an outline of his plan of campaign which was supplemented by other members of the board. Each member is to have in charge some particular branch of the association's activities, and are to select the other members of their committees. The president and secretary are to attend to the magazine. Miss Leila Clough will have charge of the arrangement of the monthly meetings, and will have other committees to look after the musical program, the places of meeting, and the subjects for discussion. It is the intention to arrange a program for the whole year and follow it as nearly as possible. They will engage members and other to provide papers on various branches of the work, and these papers after being given at the meetings will be printed in whole or part in The Garden.

Mrs. Thos. Kneale will be chairman of the membership committee and will enlist other interested members in the work of getting new workers in the association and subscribers to the Garden.

Mr. Blochman will be chairman of the Finance committee, and Misses Rainford and Sessions will head a committee to assist the hostesses in decorating for the meetings, and furnish seasonal blooms for discussion.

Miss Rainford will also form a Flower committee to look after providing floral pieces on state occasions, as well as to send bouquets to the sick and in cases of death.

The secretary will form a wild-flower committee to get as many vacant lots as possible planted to wild-flowers this fall.

Another branch of the work planned to take up, is the holding of public meetings in all sections of the city aiming to be of real help to the residents of the particular sections visited, in the planting of available spaces. Potted plants and cuttings will be given away and the meetings made as interesting as possible with music and short talks on floral subjects.

The regular meeting nights of the Association has been changed to the third Tuesday of each month, which will be adhered to as nearly as possible.

As will be seen by this outline, the association has planned a campaign of real work, and the directors will need a lot of willing assistants. It is often hard to learn the willing and able ones, and any members who feel that they could be of assistance on any particular committee work will be received with open arms by the chairman of that committee.

My Letter of Acceptance

Alfred D. Robinson

I am but imperfectly posted on political procedure—thank God—but have a faint idea that the election to a presidency calls for a letter of acceptance. Once again, after a year of blissful irresponsibility, I have been elected president of the San Diego Floral Association and although this election was due to two facts, one that L. A. Blochman, supported by his wife, absolutely refused to serve again; the other, my absence from the Board meeting at which the deed was done. Nevertheless I have been persuaded that I should accept, not because the Fair year is coming as many urged, but because good friends could keep on saying "Please" longer than I could "No", and

fortified that "Please" by promises of unlimited support in everything and everywhere. Frankly I expect that support. Taking office absolutely unpledged it seems, nevertheless, a good idea to say something of the faith that is in me. My first care is the garden itself, with its growing things big and little, showy and modest, not forgetting even the earth, the rocks and the sand, and may be the worms and bugs. My interest in the gardener is centered in his service to the garden. I believe that to lay stress on the advertising value of the garden is rank immorality, but admit it gets members, and it is better that a man should plant a garden to sell a house rather than have no garden.

I feel that the service of some plants in the scheme of things is as great as that of any man; say the potato, corn, wheat, etc., and that when some humans are called vegetables it is very unfair to the latter.

I emphatically believe that the vegetable kingdom is a sacred charge to the human family and to plant and neglect is a crime. So is the too frequent planting of things under conditions that foredoom failure.

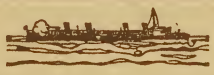
As to the Floral Association and all its works, I deem these of far greater importance than the members themselves seem to realize. This is or should be a serious movement and the great need is for a realization of this among ourselves. Till we gain this attitude we shall never take our rightful place among the serious activities for the betterment and uplift of our community. Without distinction of race, creed, color, or sex, we seek to bring into the lives of all God's beautiful things. Not as a mere passing show, but as a part of the daily task. The Floral Association has the right to expect without asking, the active support of every commercial and municipal body and the church in all its forms, and yet they pass her by with indulgent smile. This neglect is our own fault. We do not know who or what we are; how then shall others recognize us? Fellow gardeners I ask for that promised support in this: Take your Floral Association seriously, and see to it that others do also. There is a body which places Bibles in the rooms of hotels, and some day it will be joined by another that puts there a potted plant or a vase of flowers.

Robinson's Corner

Poor Hen:

These are the days when all the little mysteries of the female are being cruelly exposed. The hen, being very scarce of teeth, thought that she might lie to the census man with impunity, and she has done so for many years. Her hubby wore spurs that confined him to some limit in stretching the fact. Now a brute of a professor in Canada has discovered that every time a hen moults she makes a record of it in her wings. No, we are not going to tell you how here, for our Barred Rock hens at Rosecroft have won some consideration at our hands with their splendid show and egg record. If you are interested come and buy our three-months pullets at $15 a dozen and learn the trick.

Rosecroft Barred Rock Yards
Point Loma

Fifth Street  *Between D & E*

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